

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Initially, Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Bashore for conducting an interview with Applicant's representative, David W Foster, on December 20, 2007.

During the interview, Applicant's representative traversed the Office's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Nevertheless, for sole purpose of expediting allowance and without conceding the propriety of the Office's rejections, Applicant's representative proposed to amend each of the independent claims. Applicant's representative first proposed amending independent claim 1. Applicant's representative understood the Examiner to state that independent claim 1 should be allowable over at least the cited portions of the references of record.

Applicant's representative also understood the Examiner to tentatively agree that analogous amendments to independent claims 12, 20, 25, 31 and 34 would at least be allowable over the cited portions of the references of record.

As discussed during the interview, Applicant herein amends independent claims 1, 12, 20, 25, 31 and 34 to more clearly recite allowable subject matter.

Applicant again thanks the Examiner for his time and insight. Finally, and as discussed during the interview, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned representative before issuing a subsequent Action (other than a Notice of Allowance) to expedite allowance of this application.